

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 10069 062203Z

62

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 NSCE-00 NIC-01 DRC-01

/147 W

----- 038766

R 060500Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8395

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

RUMJFXPXAMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 1552

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH

SUBJ: PROTOCOL ON PRC MILITARY AID TO DRV FOR 1974 SIGNED

REF: WR 24 (HONG KONG 5921)

1. NCNA OCT 5 ANNOUNCED THE SIGNING BY THE PRC AND DRV IN PEKING THAT DAY OF "A PROTOCOL ON CHINA'S GRATUITOUS SUPPLY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS TO VIETNAM IN 1974." SIGNING ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENTS WERE NGO THUYEN, DRV AMBASSADOR TO THE PRC AND LI TA, PLA DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF. THE CEREMONY WAS ATTENDED ON THE PRC SIDE BY HSU HISANG-CH'EN, VICE CHAIRMAN
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PAGE 02 HONG K 10069 062203Z

OF THE MILITARY COMMISSION, LI CHIANG, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN

TRADE, HAN NIEN-LUNG, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND
HAN TSUNG-CHENG, VICE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH
FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND ON THE DRV SIDE DRV EMBASSY OFFICIALS, AND
A PRC
EMBASSY OFFICIAL. NO OTHER DETAILS WERE REVEALED.

2. THE PROTOCOL IS PART OF THE AID AGREEMENT THAT WAS SIGNED LAST
JUNE (INSTEAD OF FALL AS NORMAL) IN ORDER TO APPARENTLY COINCIDE
WITH THE PRC VISIT OF DRV LEADERS LE DUAN AND PHAM VAN DONG. A
JUNE 8 NCNA ANNOUNCEMENT DESCRIBED THE PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT
AS BEING TO REHABILITATE AND DEVELOP THE DRV ECONOMY AND STRENGTHEN
ITS NATIONAL DEFENSE AFTER THE WAR IN VIETNAM (REFTEL). THAT A CON-
CURRENT PROTOCOL WAS NOT SIGNED AT THAT TIME SUGGESTED THAT SPECIFIC
PROJECTS AND EQUIPMENT HAD NOT BEEN YET AGREED UPON. NOW
APPARENTLY SPECIFIC MILITARY AID COMPONENTS HAVE BEEN STIPULATED.
THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER MEDIA MENTION SINCE JUNE OF THE AMOUNT OR
NATURE OF PRC ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE DRV. JUDGING BY THE PAST
1972-73 PATTERN, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

MAY BE REVEALED IN SUBSEQUENT PRC-DRV AID AND TRADE PROTOCOLS.
(SEE ER NO. 24 OF 11/30/72 AND ER NO. 1 OF 1/12/73.)
OSBORN

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